REMARKS

In response to the communication mailed February 24, 2003, Applicants hereby provisionally elect the method claims of Group II (claims 15-16), with traverse. New Claims 21-32 have been added. Since these claims are also drawn to a method of manufacturing a circuit board, they properly belong in the elected Group II claims. Nonelected claims 1-14 and 17-20 have been cancelled.

The Examiner is requested to reconsider his Restriction Requirement because both groups of claims are drawn to subject matter which are so related to each other that an undue burden would not be placed upon the Examiner by maintaining both groups of claims in a single application. See, e.g., MPEP § 803.

Since all of the now pending claims are directed to a method of manufacturing a circuit board, it is believed that the species election requirement is moot. Nevertheless, for the sake of accuracy, Applicants elect Species I (Fig. 1) and believe that all of the currently pending claims are directed to the elected species.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 24, 2003

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